

DECLARATION FOR UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION
(For Use With Both PCT and Non-PCT Applications) (Atty. Docket: MIKI0004)

As a below named inventor, I declare that: My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled, (1) FREE-CUTTING COPPER ALLOY CONTAINING VERY LOW LEAD, the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked: (2) ☒ was filed on (3) June 27, 2006 (4) as U.S. Appln. or PCT Int'l. Appln. No. 10/596,849 and was amended on (5) _____ (if applicable).

I state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56. I claim priority benefits under 35 USC 119 of any United States or foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any United States or foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior United States or Foreign Application(s)

| NUMBER | COUNTRY | DAY/MONTH/YEAR FILED | PRIORITY CLAIMED |
|-----------------------------|--------------|----------------------|---|
| (6) <u>PCT/JP2005/18206</u> | <u>JAPAN</u> | <u>22/09/2005</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <u>2004-233952</u> | <u>JAPAN</u> | <u>10/08/2004</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

I claim the benefit under 35 USC 120 of the United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 USC 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

| Appln. Serial No. | Filing Date |
|-------------------|---|
| (7) _____ | (Status: <input type="checkbox"/> Patented <input type="checkbox"/> Pending <input type="checkbox"/> Abandoned) |
| _____ | (Status: <input type="checkbox"/> Patented <input type="checkbox"/> Pending <input type="checkbox"/> Abandoned) |

I appoint Joerg-Uwe Szipl, Reg. No. 31,799, W. Scott Ashton, Reg. No. 47,395, Roy Roberts, Reg. No. 54,402, and Griffin & Szipl, P.C., individually and jointly, my attorneys/agents with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and with the resulting patent, whose address is Griffin & Szipl, PC, Suite PH-1, 2300 9th Street, South, Arlington, Virginia 22204-2320, Telephone No. (703) 979-5700, Customer No. 24203.

I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 USC 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

The undersigned hereby authorize(s) Griffin & Szipl, P.C. of the above address to insert hereon any further identification or correction necessary or desirable for submission of this document.

(8) Full name of sole or first inventor Keiichiro OISHI
Inventor's signature Keiichiro Oishi Date August 28, 2006
Residence 108, Yugecho 1-chome, Yao-shi, Osaka 581-0032, JAPAN

Citizenship JAPAN

Post Office Address Same as above

(8) Full name of joint inventor _____

Inventor's signature _____ Date _____

Residence _____

Citizenship _____

Post Office Address _____

(8) Full name of joint inventor _____

Inventor's signature _____ Date _____

Residence _____

Citizenship _____

Post Office Address _____

- (1) Insert title of invention.
- (2) Check block for PCT application or U. S. application already on file, and complete items (3), (4) and (5). If PCT national phase entry application, insert international PCT application filing date, Serial No., and date of any Article 19 amendments.
- (6) Complete for foreign priority documents; add additional page if needed.
- (7) Complete for earlier US parent applications; add additional page if needed.
- (8) Complete ALL blanks. Attach second page for further joint inventors.

CAUTION: THIS FORM MAY BE USED ONLY IF ALL INVENTORS READ AND UNDERSTAND ENGLISH.